

FILED

May 18, 2006

**NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

In the matter of

MEHMET FATIH RAMAZANOGLU, M.D.

CONSENT ORDER
REINSTATING LICENSE
WITH CONDITIONS

This matter was reopened before the New Jersey State Board of Medical Examiners (the "Board") upon the Board's receipt of a petition from respondent Mehmet Fatih Ramazanoglu, M.D., seeking reinstatement of his New Jersey medical license. Respondent's New Jersey license was summarily suspended pursuant to the terms of an Order of Summary Suspension filed on September 19, 2005. The Order provided that, in the event respondent were to seek reinstatement of his New Jersey license, he would be required to appear before the Board and show cause why his application for reinstatement should not be refused or issued with conditions based on the New York action and respondent's criminal conviction. See Order of Summary Suspension in the matter of Mehmet Ramazanoglu, M.D., filed September 19, 2005.

The Order of Summary Suspension was predicated upon a disciplinary action taken by the New York State Board for Professional Medical Conduct, which Board filed an Order on November 17, 1999 revoking respondent's New York license based upon

CERTIFIED TRUE COPY

his having been convicted, upon entry of a guilty plea, of Conspiracy to Commit Mail Fraud, 18 U.S.C. §371 and Subscribing to a False Income Tax Return, 26 U.S.C. §7206(1). Respondent was sentenced to be imprisoned for a total term of eighteen months on each count to run concurrently for a total term of 18 months, to be followed by 3 years of supervised release. Respondent was additionally ordered to pay an assessment of \$100.00, a fine of \$22,000 and restitution of \$44,992.23. Respondent ultimately satisfied all conditions of his criminal sentence and was granted early discharge from probation effective April 10, 2001.

Dr. Ramazanoglu appeared before a Committee of the Board on November 23, 2005. Respondent was represented by Joseph M. Gorrell, Esq. at said appearance. Dr. David I. Canavan additionally appeared on behalf of the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey (hereinafter the "PAP").

Dr. Ramazanoglu testified extensively before the Committee about those events which led to his federal conviction, to include testimony concerning the reasons why he initially closed his New York medical practice and fled the United States in 1998, and concerning the subsequent New York State licensure action. Respondent testified that following his release from prison, he legally left the United States and practiced from June 2001 through October 2002 as a staff pediatrician at Istanbul Memorial Hospital, and thereafter maintained a private medical practice in Istanbul,

Turkey with admission privileges at Istanbul Memorial Hospital. Respondent returned to the United States in September 2003, and has since January 2004 been employed as an instructor at Gibbs College in Livingston, New Jersey, where he lectures to students in the College's Medical Assistants Program.

Respondent filed a petition for restoration of his New York license in 2003. He thereafter appeared and testified before several Committees of the New York Board. Ultimately, respondent's petition for restoration of his New York license was denied, however the New York Board instead ordered that the revocation of his license be stayed for a period of five years and ordered that respondent was to be placed on probation for a period of five years commencing May 14, 2005. The New York Board based its decisions on findings that respondent felt "genuine remorse" for his actions and that he had "undergone sufficient rehabilitation through his fulfillment of all the conditions associated with his federal sentence." Respondent's New York probation includes terms that quarterly performance reports be submitted to the New York State Department of Health from respondent's employer evaluating his performance as a physician in his place of employment and that respondent make quarterly visits with a representative of the New York Board. In addition to being allowed to resume the practice of medicine in the State of New York under probation, respondent's eligibility to participate in the federal Medicare program has been

reinstated effective October 7, 2005. Respondent testified that, in the event his New Jersey license were to be reinstated, he has received offers of employment from two New Jersey licensed physicians.

The Board additionally received testimony from David I. Canavan, M.D., Assistant Medical Director of the PAP. Dr. Canavan stated that the PAP supported respondent's petition for reinstatement of his New Jersey license. Dr. Canavan further reported that the PAP has no evidence to suggest that respondent has any history of alcohol or drug abuse or any psychiatric disorders, and that his problems instead have been legal problems compounded in part by the emotional reactions of his family members. Dr. Canavan stated that the PAP was willing to conduct any monitoring of Dr. Ramazanoglu that the Board might request.

The Board is satisfied, based on the testimony presented by respondent, that cause exists to presently reinstate the license of respondent to practice. It thus appears that respondent has satisfied all conditions of his federal conviction, to include serving his criminal sentence, and that he appears to be remorseful about the events which led to his conviction and incarceration. Additionally, as this Board's action was predicated upon the revocation of respondent's New York license, we find it significant that the State of New York has presently stayed that revocation and reinstated respondent's license under probation. The Board being

satisfied that respondent is currently fit to resume medical practice in New Jersey, provided that such practice be upon the conditions set forth below, and for good cause shown:

IT IS on this 18th day of May , 2006

ORDERED and AGREED:

1. The license of respondent Mehmet Fatih Ramazanoglu to practice medicine and surgery in the State of New Jersey is hereby reinstated, conditioned upon respondent's compliance with all terms and conditions set forth herein.

2. Respondent shall continue to enroll in and actively participate with the PAP, to include, at a minimum, quarterly meetings with representatives of the PAP for the first six months following the entry of this Order, and meetings thereafter to be scheduled at the discretion of the PAP.

3. The PAP shall provide the Board with quarterly reports concerning its monitoring of respondent, and shall make immediate reports to the Board in the event the PAP obtains any evidence to suggest that respondent has failed to comply with any of the terms and conditions of this Order, or with any requests or requirements that the PAP may independently place on respondent's participation with the PAP.

4. Respondent shall only practice as an employee of another New Jersey licensed physician, and shall have no responsibility in such capacity for independently billing patients or insurance

carriers. Any employment pursuant to the terms of this Order shall be at a location and with a physician who shall agree to monitor respondent's practice. Said physician shall be designated to be respondent's practice monitor (said designation shall be required to be approved in writing by the Board before respondent commences any medical practice under the terms of this Order). The practice monitor shall be required to agree to provide quarterly reports to the Board detailing the nature and quality of respondent's medical practice and attesting that respondent has conducted himself in accordance with all terms and conditions of this Order. The practice monitor shall further be required to agree to make immediate oral and written report(s) to the Board in the event he or she receives any information or evidence that respondent has sought to independently bill any patient or otherwise engaged in any inappropriate behavior or inappropriate medical practice.

5. Respondent shall be required to take the Special Purpose Examination (the "SPEX") administered by the Federation of State Medical Boards within six months of the date of entry of this Order, and to authorize the Board to receive the results of said examination. The Board reserves the right to place additional conditions or limitations upon respondent's practice, or to preclude respondent's continued practice by entering an Order of licensure suspension, in the event the respondent is not able to successfully pass the SPEX examination.

6. In the event respondent violates any of the conditions of this Order, respondent expressly acknowledges and agrees that such violation shall constitute grounds for the Board to enter a subsequent Order suspending or revoking respondent's license to practice medicine in the State of New Jersey.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS

Sindy M. Paul, MD, MPH

By: _____

Sindy Paul, M.D.
Board President

I hereby agree to be bound by all terms and conditions of this Order. I consent to the entry of this Order by the Board of Medical Examiners.

Mehmet Fatch Ramazanoglu

Mehmet Fatch Ramazanoglu, M.D.

I acknowledge on behalf of the Professional Assistance Program of New Jersey (the "PAP") that the PAP shall perform and comply with all monitoring and reporting conditions of the within Order

David I. Canavan, MD

David I. Canavan, M.D.
Assistant Medical Director
Professional Assistance Program of
New Jersey

